

THE DAILY TEXAN

Serving the University of Texas at Austin community since 1900



'CACHED CURSES'

Show features eclectic art by Texas-based artist Eileen Maxson

LIFE ARTS PAGE 12

SHAVE AND A HAIRCUT, TWO BITS

Wooten Barber Shop offers quick, affordable trims on the Drag
EXPOSURE PAGE 10



HORNS REFLECT

Women's basketball looks inward before taking on Lady Red Raiders
SPORTS PAGE 7



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Wednesday, January 26, 2011

TODAY

Calendar

Safety first

A campus safety discussion hosted by University Resource Groups and featuring UTPD Chief Robert Dahlstrom is taking place from noon - 1 p.m. in room 212 of the Main Building.

Music for airports

Bang on a Can All-Stars are performing with special guest Wilco drummer Glenn Kotche tonight at Bass Concert Hall. Student tickets are \$10.

'Rapid decompression'

Punk band Against Me! is playing at Emo's tonight with supporting acts Cheap Girls and Fences. Tickets are \$14 and doors open at 9 p.m.

Come one, Come All

The Ritz Alamo Drafthouse is holding an open screen event, where anyone can bring a video to be played, tonight at 9:40 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

Today in history

In 1950

After three years of independence from the United Kingdom, India officially became a republic.

Campus watch

Manifest Destiny

Jackson School of Geology, #10 East Mall

A non-UT person entered into a second floor office wanting to talk to a professor about an idea of digging a canal from the Mississippi River to Austin, then out to California and back to Nevada. The officer informed him that he needed to leave since no one was available to discuss his idea. The subject asked for directions to the Lower Colorado River Authority and left the area.



Quote to note

"It was so standard — even church-like — and there wasn't even food. You felt uncomfortable if your chair squeaked."

— **Jess Sauer**
Co-founder of Teleportal Readings

LIFE&ARTS PAGE 12



LOBBYINGtheLEGE

Cuts unite student political groups

By Melissa Ayala
Daily Texan Staff

University Democrats and College Republicans may butt heads on most issues this legislative session, but both will lobby to fight higher education funding cuts.

"Obviously, we disagree with the College Republicans on several issues, but I think what we really want to try to do is focus on issues we can all agree on," said University Democrats spokesman Cameron Miculka.

"The thing we're going to be most involved with is watching how the Legislature tackles the budget. One of the first things that is going to be on the chopping block is higher education."

The Legislative Budget Board, a joint committee that recommends state budget appropriations, released proposals last week to balance the state budget shortfall of \$15 billion to \$25 billion. The recommendation included cutting more than \$400 million from student financial aid programs and a proposal from the House to eliminate funding for at least four community colleges.

College Republicans President Justin May said the focus of the group's lobbying will suggest administrative and bureaucratic cuts in the University budget.

LOBBY continues on PAGE 2

INSIDE: Read about Texans rallying against the bill targeting undocumented immigrants on page 2

82ND LEGISLATURE

Along party lines, voter ID bill moves forward



Shannon Kintner | Daily Texan Staff

Sen. Juan Hinojosa, D-McAllen, left, discusses matters with an aide while Sen. Fraser, R-Horseshoe Bay, the author of a bill requiring photo identification at the polls, is challenged by the Committee of the Whole over specifics of the bill.

Law would require voters to show government-issued identification to cast ballots

By Shamoyita DasGupta
Daily Texan Staff

State senators passed a bill along party lines Tuesday that would require voters in Texas to provide adequate government-issued identification in order to vote.

The bill would require voters to present an unexpired identification card issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety, military identification, a passport or a citizenship certificate with a photograph. Texans over the age of 70 are exempt from the law, and student ID cards or any other type of identification that are not issued by the government will not be valid.

Sen. Troy Fraser, R-Austin, said the bill he filed on Jan. 12 would minimize voter fraud by only counting votes from eligible voters.

"The danger of voting fraud has threatened the integrity of the electoral system," Fraser said. "Every fraudulent vote effectively steals a legitimate vote."

Legislators introduced a similar

VOTE continues on PAGE 2

Forum discusses reductions to Liberal Arts ethnic centers

By Ahsika Sanders
Daily Texan Staff

Both polite questions and angry accusations marked a College of Liberal Arts open forum Tuesday night, when students and college deans met to discuss a \$1 million recommended cut to various ethnic and identity studies centers.

The Liberal Arts Council and the Senate of College Councils co-sponsored the COLA State of the College Address for students to exchange dialogue with the college's administration regarding last November's budget cuts proposal. Many Students Government and Senate representatives attended, as well as members of The Students Speak, a group formed in November in reaction to the cuts that they say will negatively impact students.

"It's outrageous that we have to fight to keep ethnic studies alive, something that we had to fight to get here in the first place," said Leticia Silva, a Latin American studies senior.

The Academic Planning and Advisory Committee proposed the cuts to 14 centers and institutes, with the Centers

CUTS continues on PAGE 6

Blanton receives grant for school tours

By William James
Daily Texan Staff

Kindergarten students might be more concerned with finger painting than with paintings from the Italian Renaissance, but this year they will have more opportunities to explore the works at the Blanton Museum of Art.

The Burdine Johnson Foundation awarded a \$150,000 grant to the Blanton Museum of Art to support the museum's initiatives to expand its K-12 programs.

The Art Central program, which supports museum visits for K-12 schools, provides students with transportation to and from their schools and teachers with comprehensive educational materials to prepare the students for their museum experience.

The foundation's grant will allow the Blanton to support tours with more schools in Travis and Hayes counties each year,



Andrew Prewitt | Daily Texan Staff

Blanton museum educator Shandra Noyes describes an installation to students of Caldwell Elementary during an afternoon tour at Blanton Museum of Art on Tuesday morning.

said museum spokeswoman Kathleen Stimpert.

The Blanton education department works closely with the school

teachers to optimize the museum experience, with the goal of drawing

BLANTON continues on PAGE 6

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High 61 Low 38
I'm so random. Albino squirrel.

VOTE
continues from PAGE 1

bill in 2009, but House Democrats used parliamentary procedures to stall the legislation. Fraser said the department could distribute ID cards for free to make them more affordable and widely accessible. The bill will cost approximately \$2 million to implement, and Fraser did not specify how supporters will fund the bill. Senate Democrats said Fraser's bill included too many restrictions and were concerned about the unintended consequences that will accompany the passage of the bill. "[The bill will] disenfranchise people who are unable to obtain this [ID] card," said Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston. Sen. Wendy Davis, D-Fort Worth, said many citizens are unable to allot the time needed to obtain a new ID. She presented a chart that illustrated the circular process of getting an ID — some form of identification is always needed in order to make a new ID card — to demonstrate the difficulty in obtaining identification for eligible voters. Democratic senators also said many counties in Texas do not have DPS offices, and constituents there would have no choice but to travel considerable distances to find a DPS office. Representatives from different organizations also attended to voice their concerns about the bill. The bill would discriminate against minorities, the elderly and the working class, said Rosa Rosales, founder and director of the National Alliance of Education and Equity. "It's like bringing back the poll tax, which is regressing," she said. "Our priorities should be in educating our children, not in creating barriers to vote."



Shannon Kintner | Daily Texan Staff

Citizens from all over the state marched to the Capitol yesterday to rally against proposed bills that could lead to racial profiling in Texas. The laws resemble Arizona's S.B. 1070 and would also affect college tuition for undocumented students.

Texans march against profiling legislation

By Mary Ellen Knewtson
Daily Texan Staff

A blend of Spanish and English cries rose up to the Capitol's south steps at a rally against proposed legislation that would target undocumented immigrants in Texas. More than 200 people from various organizations and university groups gathered to protest, among other things, a bill state Rep. Debbie Riddle, R-Houston, proposed that is similar to one enacted in Arizona in April 2010. The Texas bill would allow law enforcement officials to ask about the citizenship of someone who is in their custody for another crime. If federal records show the person is an undocumented immigrant, they may face

additional charges. Jannell Robles, an organizer with Houston United, said laws similar to Arizona's bill would lead to racial profiling. "It's not the humane thing to do, to go around asking people for their papers," she said. Robles said police officers waste their time inquiring about citizenship status. Although the organizing group is based in Houston, activists from Dallas, Austin, San Antonio and South Texas were present at the rally. Gov. Rick Perry recently included sanctuary cities — where GOP lawmakers believe city officials flout federal immigration statutes — on a leg-

islative emergency list, which allows state lawmakers to begin debating bills on the subject. Rally organizer Michael Espinoza said the move will only appease Perry's conservative voting base. "Securing our borders is serious," Espinoza said. "But what's also serious is ensuring the safety, security and integration of people already here. This is one of many more rallies to take place during the legislative session. Our message today is that we're all family." The protestors also assailed a bill that would require undocumented students to pay out-of-state tuition at Texas public colleges, said Jesus Perales, former vice president of a stu-

dent group at Lamar University in Beaumont. "We invest in education for all students," Perales said. "They've grown up here in Texas, and to deny them a right to higher education would put their hope down." Perales' organization worked to pass the DREAM Act, which would have granted citizenship to undocumented college students and active duty soldiers and veterans. Since the bill failed in the U.S. Senate in December, the organization shifted its focus to telling undocumented high school students who aspire to go to college about proposed legislation that threatens to put college out of reach financially, he said.

LOBBY
continues from PAGE 1

"We are trying to make sure faculty members are still given a good salary and that students are given the financial support they need to pursue their studies," May said. "We acknowledge that [the Legislature] is going to have to cut back state spending, but we really don't think we should see a disproportional hit for higher education funding." UDeMs and College Republicans both have their first meetings of the semester tonight. Miculka said UDeMs will encourage members to get involved in the lobbying process by writing local lawmakers such as state Reps. Mark Strama and

Donna Howard, Austin Democrats, and their home district representatives. Strama will speak at tonight's UDeMs meeting. "We are planning on having lobby days, a couple rallies and making sure we get the campus informed on all the issues we're trying to tackle," Miculka said. "We want to raise awareness to make sure people know what is going on in the Legislature." Aside from focusing on budget cuts to higher education, Miculka said UDeMs will also lobby against concealed carry of handguns on campus. In November, state Rep. David

Simpson, R-Longview, and state Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, filed bills proposing the legalization of concealed carry on college campuses. Last session, Wentworth and state Sen. Joe Driver, R-Garland, pushed similar bills that passed in the Senate but failed to reach the House floor. May said the Sept. 28 incident when mathematics sophomore Colton Tooley fired several rounds with an AK-47 before taking his own life in the Perry-Castañeda Library fueled their lobbying efforts to allow concealed carry on campus. With 101 House and 19 Senate Republicans — solid GOP majorities in both chambers — he said he believes the bill is likely to pass. "We believe very strongly that those who own a conceal and carry

permit should have the right to defend themselves on campus. We believe violence does not stop at the borders of our university," May said. "We know that it doesn't just by seeing what happened last semester." Even if college campuses are designated gun-free zones, the bill will ensure student and faculty safety, said Kory Zipperer, Students for Concealed Carry on Campus vice president. "There's a difference between feeling safe and being safe," said Zipperer, a psychology senior. "We don't think the campus merits any restrictions. We would like to see the bill signed by Gov. Rick Perry." The College Republicans also support a bill filed that would eliminate in-state tuition for non-citizens and undocumented immigrants, May said.

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JAN. 18 - FEB. 3

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1/26/11

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40029

Obama stresses recovery, deficit in address

The Associated Press

President Obama sketched out his vision and goals in an era of divided government as he spoke to the nation in his State of the Union address Tuesday night. Here are the highlights:

ECONOMY

Obama hailed the signs of economic recovery — a booming stock market and a jump in corporate profits.

“Now that the worst of the recession is over, we have to confront the fact that our government spends more than it takes in. That is not sustainable,” he said.

Obama proposed a five-year freeze on nondefense spending that would reduce the deficit by more than \$400 billion over the next decade. He agreed to work with lawmakers on deeper budget cuts, vowed to veto bills with lawmakers’ pet projects and called for simplifying the tax code.

HEALTH CARE

Obama strongly defended his health care overhaul law, now under siege from Republicans. He expressed a willingness to improve the law, including eliminating an onerous bookkeeping requirement for small businesses. He also indicated he was open to GOP ideas on medical malpractice reform.

“So instead of refighting the battles of the last two years, let’s fix what needs fixing and move forward,” he said.

FOREIGN POLICY

In a speech largely devoted to domestic issues, Obama touched on foreign policy, saying the U.S. commitment to Iraq has been kept and the war is coming to an end.



President Obama is applauded by Speaker of the House John Boehner and Vice President Joseph Biden while delivering his State of the Union address on Capitol Hill.

Pablo Martinez Monsivais Associated Press

In Afghanistan, the drawdown of U.S. forces will begin in July as the American troops have captured Taliban strongholds and trained more Afghan security forces.

“Our purpose is clear — by preventing the Taliban from re-establishing a stranglehold over the Afghan people, we will deny al-Qaida the safe haven that served as a launching pad for 9/11,” Obama said.

He said the U.S. stands with the people of Tunisia and all people striving for democracy.

GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

Obama scoffed at a government in which the Interior Department oversees salmon in fresh water and Commerce handles salmon win saltwater.

“And I hear it gets even more complicated once they’re smoked,” he joked.

Obama promised to merge, consolidate and reorganize the federal government, a proposal that he would submit to Congress for a vote.

POLITICS

Obama acknowledged the lingering divisions from a fierce election and pleaded with Republicans and Democrats to work together, especially as they gathered just weeks after the shooting rampage in Tucson that seriously wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords. “What comes of this moment will be determined not by whether we can sit together tonight, but whether we can work together tomorrow,” Obama said.



Mohammed Zaatari | Associated Press

A protester carries a picture of outgoing Prime Minister Saad Hariri and a Lebanese flag in front of burning tires in Lebanon on Tuesday.

Lebanon’s Prime Minister handpicked by Hezbollah

By Elizabeth Kennedy & Zeina Karam The Associated Press

BEIRUT — The billionaire businessman chosen by Hezbollah and its allies as Lebanon’s prime minister called for a unity government Tuesday, a sign that the Iranian-backed militant group does not want to push its growing power too far and risk isolation abroad and an escalation of sectarian tensions at home.

In Washington, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton warned that formation of a government dominated by Hezbollah would mean changes in U.S. relations with Lebanon. The U.S. deems Hezbollah a terrorist organization and has imposed sanctions against the group and its members.

Hezbollah’s opponents maintain having an Iranian proxy in control of Lebanon’s government would be disastrous and lead to international isolation. The militant group has its own arsenal and is the country’s

most powerful military force.

Seeking to calm sectarian tensions, Prime Minister-designate Najib Mikati called for a unity government.

“My hand is extended to all Lebanese, Muslims and Christians, in order to build and not to destroy,” said Mikati, whose moderate credentials and Harvard education make it difficult for opponents to cast him off as a pro-Hezbollah figure with a militant agenda.

A telecoms tycoon and former prime minister, Mikati, a 55-year-old Sunni, is seen as a neutral figure in Lebanese politics.

Thousands of Mikati’s fellow Sunnis poured into the streets across the country, burning tires, throwing rocks and accusing Hezbollah of a coup d’etat.

In the impoverished northern city of Tripoli, a hotbed of Sunni fundamentalism and Mikati’s hometown, protesters torched a van belonging to Al-Jazeera, apparently accusing the Arab satellite channel of bias in favor of Hezbollah.

Women’s Basketball

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OVERVIEW

Stop cuts to financial aid

College is expensive, as every university student knows, and the costs are only rising. It's one of the few unassailable truths of our time.

But now, legislators attempting to balance Texas' budget are looking to severely cut the precious financial aid that helps keep students afloat.

According to proposed budgets, financial aid would be slashed by hundreds of millions of dollars in 2012-13 — \$431 million in the House version and \$381 million in the Senate version.

Meanwhile, Gov. Rick Perry is pushing through "emergency" legislation that is as unnecessary as it is costly. According to Senate Democrats, the Voter ID bill, which Perry deems especially urgent, could cost millions. Sen. Kirk Watson, D-Austin, said one of the bill's provisions that requires the Texas DPS to issue free identification cards to voters would cost \$3 million per year.

That's just one stipulation of the bill.

Call us crazy, but perhaps those millions would be better spent on TEXAS Grant, a need-based scholarship that will see its budget cut by 41 percent. That means that entering UT freshmen will face more obstacles to receiving an education, especially those who come from less privileged financial backgrounds. UT is an excellent public university that prides itself on offering the best education possible to Texas' brightest, regardless of the size of their wallets.

Thomas Melecki, director of student financial services at UT, told the Austin American-Statesman that about 4,800 students are currently recipients of the grants. For many of those students, attending UT is not a possibility without grants.

UT group lobbies on behalf of undocumented students

There are more than 25 bills in the Texas Legislature that could make obtaining an education more difficult for undocumented students.

With the DREAM Act failing to pass, the University Leadership Initiative's efforts at the Capitol to support undocumented students are more important than ever.

One bill, filed by state Rep. Tim Kleinschmidt, R-Lexington, would require undocumented students to pay out-of-state tuition. Another bill, filed by State Rep. Debbie Riddle, R-Tomball, would require public schools to take head counts of undocumented students. Riddle's chief of staff claims the head counts would be used to calculate how much money the state spends on undocumented immigrants' education, and the numbers would not be used as a means to push students out of the education system. We're skeptical about this line of reasoning, regardless of intent. ULI President Loren Campos made the cogent point that parents of undocumented students might shy away from the public education system for fear that it is another arm of Immigration Services.

It's disappointing that legislators are focusing their efforts on punishing undocumented students — many of whom were brought to the U.S. when they were children — by making an education more difficult to obtain. A more prudent and reasonable course would be to fix the flaws in the immigration system. Of course, that solution would require more thought and effort to propose; it would be much more difficult than, say, targeting undocumented immigrants within the education system under the guise of transparency or money-saving.

Legislators in favor of these bills should realize that obscuring the path to education is not a solution. It's just lazy governing.

LEGALESE

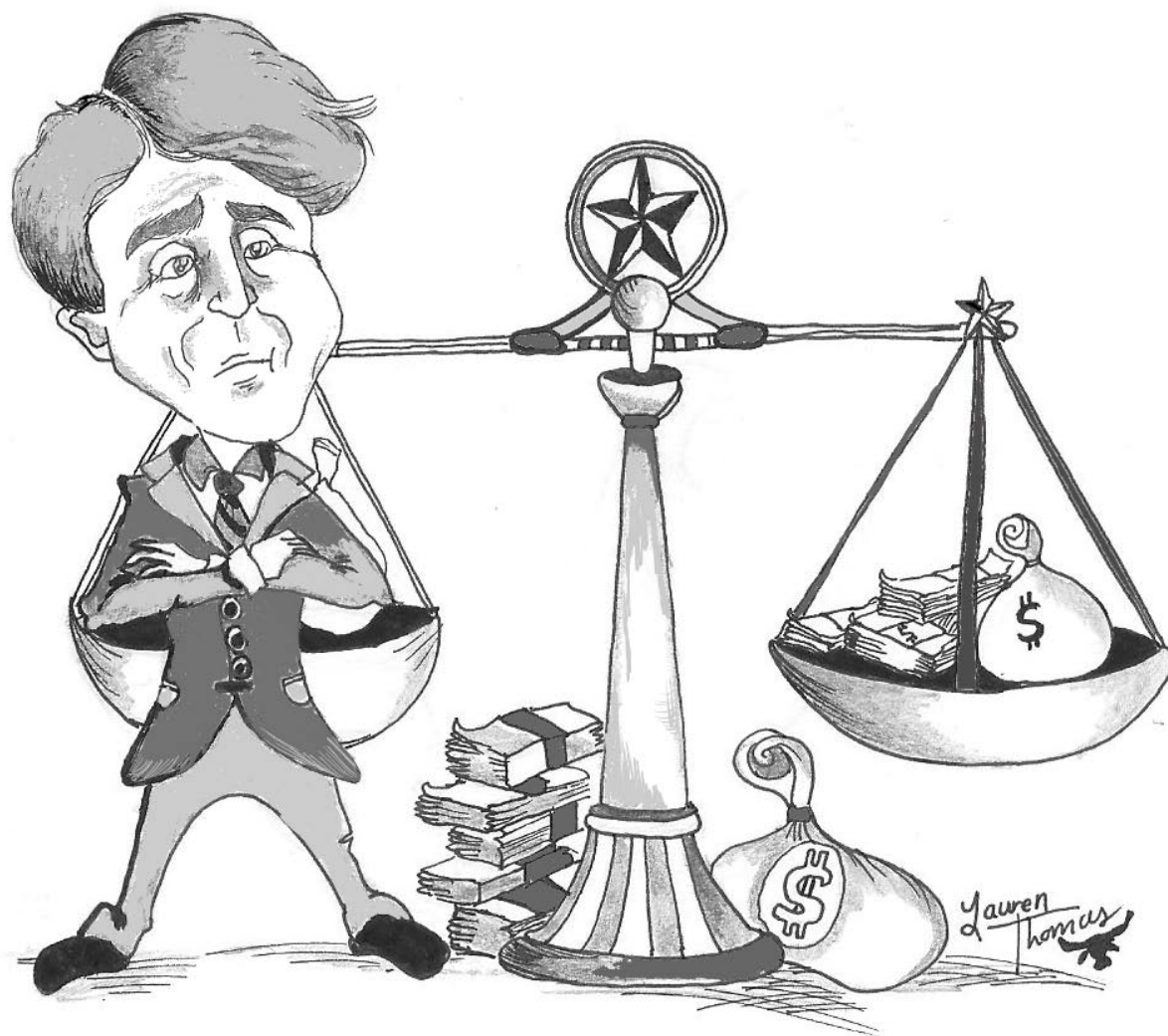
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A third way out of the budget crisis

By Brandon Curl
Daily Texan Guest Columnist

Let's imagine you're the state of Texas. Your governor was re-elected for an unprecedented third term on the coattails of economic prosperity for the state despite a national recession. In campaign ads, you watched him tout "tough conservative decisions" resulting in "billions in surplus."

But less than a year later, your Legislature meets to determine how to solve a budget deficit estimated to be somewhere between \$15 billion and \$27 billion.

The so-called "surplus" mentioned previously turns out to be a \$9.4 billion Rainy Day Fund that legislators refuse to use. Budget cuts loom large. What is a state to do?

You have two familiar options. You must make more money or spend less.

For Texas, making more money means raising taxes, but that's something many Republicans promised not to do. So our only alternative is to spend less to the tune of \$31.1 billion in cuts, primarily to education and health care services.

But spending less is hardly a desirable option. The proposed budget cuts include \$711.6 million from higher education, of which \$100 million will come from the University of Texas at Austin. At more than a quarter of the University's overall budget, that's no small potatoes. UT President William Powers Jr. has stated that course availability, class sizes and salaried positions will all be affected.

But there is a third option: deficit spending. In other words, we continue to spend money we don't have.

Before you balk, remember that deficit spending is practically a national pastime. With the exception of a short time during Andrew Jackson's presidency, the United States has always been in debt. The need to pay off our debt, in the short term at least, is a myth, especially during a recession when spending is actually needed. (See: the Great Depression)

Currently, the national debt exceeds \$14 trillion (with a 't'), or 94 percent of the GDP, according to the National Debt Clock viewable online at [\[clock.org\]\(http://clock.org\). By contrast, the Texas debt is just under \\$260 billion \(with a 'b'\), or 22 percent of Texas' GDP. We can stand to borrow \\$30 billion more. Of course, this requires an amendment to the Texas constitution allowing an imbalanced budget as is the practice of the federal government.](http://usdebt-</p>
</div>
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But what if deficit spending spirals out of control? In a worst-case scenario, the federal government would provide a bailout. Last week, a New York Times article revealed policymakers in Washington are working behind the scenes to come up with a way to allow states to declare bankruptcy, much like General Motors did nearly two years ago.

Should the national debt saddled with a Texas bailout spiral even further out of control, the United States could always refuse to pay it. We've done it before with debt accrued by the annexed Confederate States of America during the Civil War. Or we could print more money. That didn't work out too well for Weimar Germany, though.

Look, I'm not John Maynard Keynes. I'm not even an economics student. The budget is complicated, and no doubt I have oversimplified and satirized it here. Certainly, deficit spending is not always a good thing, but it's not always a bad thing either.

What is bad is running a structural deficit, a deficit that persists even when the economy is doing well, which is something that Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman agrees Texas has.

Gov. Rick Perry's so-called "tough decisions" are just irresponsible. Refusing to raise or even levy taxes (Texas has no personal income tax) and then cut vital state funding instead is shortsighted. Reform of the way Texas generates revenue is greatly needed, and, until that happens, we should be willing to engage in deficit spending.

There's an expression in economics known as "starving the beast," which means cutting taxes in order to create deficits that force the government to cut spending. In Texas, the beast is already starved. The beast is dead. All that's left is a college kid with no girlfriend who eats Ramen noodles seven times a week. Quietly, he dreams of a better life.

Curl is an advertising graduate student.

Write for the Texan

By You
Daily Texan columnist

Have something to say? Say it in print — and to the entire campus.

The Daily Texan Editorial Board is currently accepting applications for columnists and cartoonists. We're looking for talented writers and artists to provide as much diversity of opinion as possible. Anyone and everyone is encouraged to apply.

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History.

Barack Obama may not be a frequent reader, but a copy of the Texan runs across UT President William Powers Jr.'s desk each day, and the opinions on this page have great potential to affect University policy.

If interested, please come to the Texan office at 25th and Whitis streets to complete an application form and sign up for an interview time. If you have any additional questions, please contact Lauren Winchester at (512) 232-2212 or editor@dailytexanonline.com.

You can be a Daily Texan columnist or cartoonist.

THE FIRING LINE

Support honest elections

I would like to address Monday's overview, "Vote down voter ID." I agree that this legislation shouldn't have been deemed an "emergency measure." However I think it is an opportunity to ensure the integrity of our elections. To compare this legislation to poll taxes and literacy requirements demonizes the authors and sponsors of these bills (there are multiple versions in the House and Senate). By drawing this conclusion you are likening our representatives to those who thought it was their responsibility to decide who had rights and what those rights were.

The purpose of this legislation is not to discriminate but to verify that the people who are casting their ballots are who they attest to be. This will ensure that our elections are legitimate and that each individual's vote counts. The article makes it clear that voter fraud shouldn't be

addressed unless it is "rampant." To allow any known voter fraud to continue, even if it is just one case, would indicate that each individual's vote is insignificant and would be an injustice to our democracy.

It should be noted that S.B. 14, which is currently in committee in the Senate, provides access to a free personal identification certificate that would suffice as proper ID to vote. If a voter does not bring proper ID, he or she can cast a provisional ballot and return within six days to have his or her identity confirmed and ballot submitted. The bill also provides the Secretary of State with the tools needed to inform the public of the change and ensures that voters who cast provisional ballots know the procedure for having their ballots verified.

Ensure that your vote counts and that our elections remain legitimate. Support honest elections.

— Jordan Nichols, Economics sophomore

Philanthropists, center director among picks for Powers’ award

By Preethi Srikanth
Daily Texan Staff

The four recipients of this year's Presidential Citation Award come from a diverse range of fields, but they share a common dedication to the University and its impact on the community, UT President William Powers Jr. said.

The University created the award program in 1979 to recognize distinguished alumni or members of the UT community, and each year the UT president chooses two to four nominees to honor. This year, Powers chose United States Trade Ambassador Ron Kirk, a UT Law School alumnus; Shirley Bird Perry, UT's Senior Vice President and a UT alumna; philanthropists and UT alumni Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long; and Thomas Staley, the director of the Harry Ransom Center and a renowned humanities expert.

Powers said while the selection process is difficult, honoring outstanding faculty and graduates is one way the University can give thanks.

“Each of the recipients have given so much back to UT,” he said. “We talk about taking education from UT and making a difference with it, and these are the people changing the world.”

Staley came to the University in 1988 and focused on acquisitions and cataloging manuscripts for student use. He wrote or edited 15 books on topics including James Joyce, Italo Svevo and modern British women novelists. An accomplished humanities scholar, Staley is promoting the growth of modern literature and said he wants to see the center acquire more photography and film.

“This award is very important to me not just for its honor, but because it makes my service at UT meaningful,” Staley said.

Perry's nomination for the award comes after a half-century-long career at UT, when she was involved



Andrew Prewitt | Daily Texan Staff

Shirley Bird Perry, senior vice president of the University of Texas, was recently announced as one of the recipients of the Presidential Citation Award, which recognizes individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the University.

in numerous leadership roles and clubs around campus. She started her career at UT as program director and eventually became Union director. Perry then served as vice president and vice chancellor for development and external relations with the UT System until 2004, when she became UT's senior vice president.

She now works with the Briscoe Center for American History and

seeks to create a better historical record of the University.

“We pick key people to interview and do research on background and facts with oral historians from the Briscoe center,” Perry said. “We then conduct interviews which are archived via call transcripts and videos. This way, we have raw materials to look at of our University's history with varying perspectives.”

UTPD reviews goals for reaccreditation

By Allison Kroll
Daily Texan Staff

The UT Police Department will keep meeting a set of international conduct standards because of a continued affiliation with two public safety associations.

UTPD Chief Robert Dahlstrom announced over winter break that the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators and the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies reaccredited the department.

“IACLEA and CALEA make sure our police department is following the best procedures,” Dahlstrom said. “They give us a set of standards, protect us in lawsuits and attempt to make sure the community trusts us and that we’re an accredited agency.”

Some of the standards address the use of deadly force, sexual harassment and bias-based profiling, requirements for training involving weapons proficiency and other standards concerning the management and operations of a public

safety agency, IACLEA Director of Accreditation John Leonard said.

“Both the administration and agency have made a commitment not only to achieve the standards but to retain them,” Leonard said. The University's affiliation with IACLEA began in 2008 and in 2007 for CALEA.

The agencies inspect UTPD every three years to make sure they are meeting about 460 standards and also following five-year strategic plans created by Dahlstrom, who is a member of the IACLEA Accreditation Commission.

UT was fourth in the state to be accredited by both agencies, Dahlstrom said.

“Both organizations are known throughout the world, and IACLEA is specific for college law enforcement,” he said. “They’re both prestigious to have. It’s strenuous because it takes the entire department working year-round to meet the standards set by both agencies.”

UTPD is also accredited with CALEA, which sets standards specific for municipal and county de-

partments, and they have joint accreditation, Dahlstrom said.

CALEA and IACLEA set professional standards that UTPD aspires to meet, said Lt. Amber Calvert, UTPD's accreditation manager.

“We take those standards and craft our policies and procedures to achieve them,” Calvert said. “This is the what to do — not how to do it.”

IACLEA standards specific to college campuses include campus crime reporting, blue-light phones, safety escort services and video surveillance.

“The agencies help us formalize our processes,” Calvert said. “They help us with liability issues and also help us get out and work with the community more, which allows us to stay transparent.”

Department personnel constantly monitor their work to help with the affiliation process. For example, a recruiter is responsible for updating the recruiting plan and collecting information on those that apply, and an internal affairs lieutenant gathers information on complaints and publishes that information.

City Council subject of county attorney inquiry

By William James
Daily Texan Staff

Travis County Attorney David Escamilla will lead an inquiry into whether Austin Mayor Lee Leffingwell and city council members violated the Texas Open Meetings Act by discussing how they plan to vote before general council meetings.

“The complaint alleges that the Mayor and Council have coordinated a regular series of private gatherings of Council members in numbers less than a quorum to conduct private discussions, thereby avoiding the public notice and meeting requirements of the Act,” Escamilla said in a statement.

According to the Act, every meeting conducted by a government body must be open to the public unless it is meant to discuss a personnel matter, land acquisition or legal counsel.

Austin activist Brian Rodgers said he believes Leffingwell meets in his

office with two council members at a time, one hour before each general meeting. Rodgers said the mayor met with only two members at a time to avoid establishing a quorum, which would have violated the Act.

The Austin Bulldog, an investigative blog, released a conversation between Rodgers and Council Member Chris Riley on Tuesday. Rodgers said Riley told him most council members finalize their votes before going to the Thursday meetings.

“No one in the council denies that they do this, and they will have to stop meeting in private,” Rodgers said. “When Riley told me that the council already knows how they’ll vote on Thursdays, I sat there angrily thinking about how community activists pour their time and energy into making our city a better place to live — unaware that the council’s votes are set before they even walk into the council chambers.”

Riley denied these accusations.

“In my experience, there is absolutely no intent on the part of any member of the Austin City Council to circumvent the Open Meetings Act,” Riley said.

Leffingwell released a statement assuring the City Council's willingness to cooperate with any legal proceedings.

“We’ve been advised by the City Attorney that meetings between individual Council members do not violate the Open Meetings Act, but we will cooperate fully with the County Attorney’s review,” the statement said.



Chris Riley
Austin City Council Member

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A liberal arts student speaks out against the College of Liberal Arts budget cuts at an open forum in the University Teaching Center on Tuesday evening.

CUTS continues from PAGE 1

for African and African American, Middle Eastern, Mexican American and Latin American studies receiving the largest blows. The proposal is the first of a series of steps that Dean Randy Diehl said will be complete later in the semester after the deans have taken input from students and faculty.

Diehl said at the time the cuts were initially proposed, administrators had just learned that a proposed \$90 million liberal arts building would not receive funding from the Board of Regents and the state. The college had to choose between the building or a budget re-evaluation.

“We could scuttle the building project or develop an alternative way to fund the building, and we decided to go with the latter,” he said.

Diehl said the new building is “critical to the future” of the College of Liberal Arts, and it is important to build it now because costs are low.

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Richard Flores said in December that without the pending 10-percent cut from the State Legislature, the \$3.5 million cut that includes the centers’ cuts would be unnecessary. The college is still trying to determine how to cut the other \$2.5 million.

A recent evaluation determined the Center for European Studies, which got increased funding in the first proposal, will also have its budget reduced.

Liberal Arts Council President Carl Thorne-Thomsen said he thought the forum was a success because it allowed students to give input to the deans.

“We certainly understand how students might have felt that they haven’t had a say in some of these decisions, [so] it’s pretty reassuring to know that they are coming out to listen,” Thorne-Thomsen said.

The Students Speak spokesperson Bernardino Villasenor said the forum was great in terms of getting students to come out, and he is hoping the student input will have more of an impact. The Students Speak invited the deans to come to its public forum Feb. 1 to hear from more concerned students. Villasenor said their forum will be the beginning of actions they will take this legislative session.

“We are completely against these cuts and we are going to try to keep them from happening here,” he said. “That means we are going to have to evolve our fight and go to the Legislature, and we will do that.”

BLANTON continues from PAGE 1

ing connections between students’ lives and the world around them, Stimpert said.

Jamie Pettit, an art teacher at Zilker Elementary School, has participated in the Blanton’s K-12 program for eight years. She said she was excited to learn the Burdine Johnson Foundation is making efforts to expand the program.

“The Blanton offers amazing tours that teach students art beyond the surface,” Pettit said.

Zilker Elementary sends its fifth grade class to the Blanton four times a year, free of cost to its students and teachers. Jennifer Fleischman, an art teacher at Caldwell Elementary School, also takes her students on regular tours with the help of the Art Central program.

“For many of the children this is the first time for them to come to a museum,” Stimpert said. “We are so thankful that the Burdine Johnson Foundation has an interest in outreach to students, and particularly those students that might not have the opportunity to visit a museum otherwise.”

Foundation trustee Bill Johnson said the organization has always been committed to art education for school-aged children in Austin and its surrounding areas.

“The foundation’s gift is a continuation of longtime support [for] the Blanton’s educational programs,” Johnson said.

In 2010, the Art Central program allowed more than 11,000 students from 125 schools to visit the museum, including 3,800 students that come from lower socioeconomic schools that are traditionally underserved in the arts.

The museum has served more than 3,200 K-12 students so far in the first quarter of this fiscal year and, with the help of this grant, the number of visiting students will continue to increase, Stimpert said.

SG restructures agencies, reinforces judicial branch

By Audrey White
Daily Texan Staff

Student Government passed a set of broad reforms to its internal structure and external operations in its first meeting of the semester Tuesday.

An SG Internal Reform Task Force began work over the summer to create a series of changes to SG’s constitution and bylaws, including the rejuvenation of the judicial branch, added positions to the assembly and increased efficiency in the agency system, the primary structure for outreach and student programming.

“Hopefully, this will start an ongoing process of reform and create more ways for students to interact with SG and make SG more accountable,” said the task force’s chair, Cecilia Lopez, a higher education administration graduate student. “I didn’t think we were going to be able to accomplish as much as we did in the time that we had.”

The task force’s recommendations helped fulfill campaign promises that SG President Scott Parks made during the February 2010 campaign season, Parks said.

“Something that we campaigned on a lot was our agency structure, and this provides a much more efficient and sustainable organizational structure for our agencies,” he said. “We’ll be able to program better for students and get better

turnout at programs students are interested in attending.”

The new agency organization will allow for more extensive recruitment of students who are not already involved with SG, Lopez said.

“When students ask how to get involved, [SG members] will have more to say than just to come to a meeting,” she said.

The reform also creates several positions within the assembly, including the creation of a clerk position to take minutes and manage meetings’ logistics and an assembly chair who will run the meetings, a role the vice president currently fulfills. The new constitution also includes the creation of two first-year seats, which freshmen, first-year transfer students and first-year graduate students would be eligible to run for each fall.

Because SG approved the reform, it has to go before a campus-wide vote. SG will hold a special election to approve the reform on Feb. 9 and 10 so that students can elect the 2010-11 executive and assembly members under the new SG constitution during the March general election.

During the meeting, SG also appointed a new University-wide representative to fill the seat that business senior Alex Greenberg vacated at the end of the fall semester. Government junior Yaman Desai will take the seat. Desai is involved with University Democrats and was part of the Internal Reform Task Force.

“When students ask how to get involved, [SG members] will have more to say than just to come to a meeting.”

—Cecilia Lopez
SG task force chair



Biology and pre-pharmacy sophomore Christie Trinh uses the new parking meters as a part of her daily commute on 25th and San Antonio streets on Tuesday afternoon.

Charlie Pearce
Daily Texan Staff

Plans to place parking meters in neighborhoods put on hold

By Joe Layton
Daily Texan Staff

The city is delaying a plan to install new parking meters in the West Campus area until stakeholders finalize plans for a city-wide implementation program. The delay may last six to nine months.

The Parking Benefit District program aims to put solar powered meters that accept credit cards throughout the city, according to the City of Austin website. Some of the profit the parking meters generate will be used to improve pedestrian amenities such as sidewalks and trees.

“We used the revenue from the [Parking Benefit District] to supplement the funding for the Rio Grande project and the enhancement of pedestrian amenities on the street,” said George Adams, the assistant director of the Planning and Development Review.

Some city and student representatives said they are skeptical about the actual financial benefits of the pro-

gram. At a recent citywide Parking Benefit District stakeholders meeting, a group of students, business owners and other representatives decided to delay the presentation of the program to the Austin City Council for deliberation so that they could come to agreement on the program’s terms.

“Neighborhoods would still only be receiving 30 percent of the leftover revenue from the parking, minus flat rate deductions for costs of the meters,” said John Lawler, a Liberal Arts representative in Student Government. “In terms of actual sidewalks and street lighting for West Campus, [that is] only portions of a few city blocks.”

Lawler is also an official student representative for the University Area Partners neighborhood association. He worked to pass a resolution last fall that condemned the current proposal and requested no parking meters be implemented along streets, except on parts of Rio Grande Street that back up into retail establishments.

The city established a pilot program along San Antonio Street between Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and West 26th Street in January 2006. There are also plans to develop another pilot program in the Rainey Street area. In 2006, City Council approved a zoning overlay in the West Campus area to increase residential density. A small part of the revenue from the Parking Benefit District program would improve the area’s aesthetics, according to the city’s website.

“Currently the city has no plans to put new parking meters in the West Campus area,” said Steve Grassfield, transportation regulatory manager of the Austin Transportation Department. “Once the Parking Benefit District plans are finalized, neighborhood associations can request implementation of the [meters].”

Businesses could request meters be installed around their property once the program is finalized, which could take six to nine months, Grassfield said.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL
No. 7 TEXAS at OKLAHOMA STATE

Johnson's tenacity,
leadership paying
dividends for UT

By Will Anderson
Daily Texan Staff

When trying to discern the differences between last year's team and this one, look no further than Gary Johnson.

After the 7-10 skid to finish 2010, three players left for the NBA. Head coach Rick Barnes decided to install a new, more structured offense to keep players from improvising too much and turned to Johnson for leadership on the court.

Johnson, along with fellow seniors Dogus Balbay and Matt Hill, stepped up, determined not to let this season's team suffer the same self-destructive fate.

"We knew what the cancer was to the team," Johnson said about last season. "I think guys had self-identity issues, felt like they could do it all from time to time. That was a big downfall."

Now Johnson's most important role is that of field general. He does everything well—third in scoring on the team with 11.8 points per game, third in rebounding, fourth in minutes—but focuses on keeping everyone tuned in to the team's goals.

"It was imperative for us to concentrate on guys actually getting to know each other more," he said.

So between cleaning up the boards, scoring on second-chance opportunities and providing a dangerous mid-range threat, Johnson must also concentrate on relaying Barnes' orders to everyone on the floor.

PREVIEW

 VS. 

Date: Tonight
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Gallagher-Iba Arena
(Stillwater, Ok.)
On Air: ESPN



Photos by Derek Stout | Daily Texan Staff

Top, senior forward Gary Johnson attacks the basket during the Longhorns' 81-60 victory over Texas A&M earlier this season. Bottom, Johnson prepares for a recent Texas game. The Houston native is third on the team in scoring and rebounding.

JOHNSON continues on PAGE 8

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
NOTEBOOK

Big 12 primed
for 'big week'

By Andy Lutz
Daily Texan Staff

The last three undefeated teams in league play — Baylor, Texas A&M and Oklahoma — are preparing for a busy week that will see at least one of those squads pick up a loss.

The sixth-ranked Aggies travel to face No. 13 Oklahoma tonight and then host the top-ranked Bears on Sunday in College Station.

"This will be a big week in the Big 12," said Oklahoma coach Sherri Coale. "This is an opportunity to hold serve on our home court."

Both Oklahoma and Baylor made it to the Final Four last season and look just as dominant this year.

A&M is currently on a hot streak, blowing out league opponents by an average of 30.25 points. The Bears are currently riding a 15-0 tear of their own, and Oklahoma has two of the conference's top-10 scorers.

"I think it's going to be a great weekend," said A&M head coach Gary Blair. "This is what you dream about as coaches. You live for these weekends."

Baylor maintains top spot in ESPN poll

The No. 1 Lady Bears of Baylor have maintained the top spot in the collegiate rankings for the fourth week in a row after two convincing wins last week.

Brittney Griner led the ladies from Waco in their last game — a 64-51 win over No. 25 Texas Tech, recording 25 points, 7 rebounds and 6 blocks to overpower the Red Raider interior. Baylor (18-1) will face perhaps their toughest test of the rest of the season this Sunday when they travel to College Station to take on No. 5 Texas A&M. The Aggies have matched the Lady Bears' 5-0 start in Big 12 play (along with No. 13 Oklahoma). This pivotal matchup will go a long way in determining the winner of the conference down the road. The Big 12 race was supposed to include Texas (1-4), but with the Longhorns' slow start that's no longer the case, and it appears to be a three-way race at the top of the standings.

UConn's Walker transferring to Kentucky

Maybe losing one game does make a big difference after all. After having their record 89-game winning

BIG 12 continues on PAGE 8

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
TEXAS at TEXAS TECH

Horns face tough test against Red Raiders

By Sameer Bhuchar
Daily Texan Staff

Five games into Big 12 play and the Longhorns have given themselves a good, hard look in the mirror before facing their next opponent on the road tonight, the Texas Tech Lady Raiders.

Coach Gail Goestenkers understands that a little reflection is important for a team that must learn to overcome itself before overcoming its opponents. She said that her squad is always in positions to win, but it has allowed teams to steal games by way of a lack of focus.

When asked what her letter grade for the team would be, Goestenkers gave them a B- because they have yet to put together a complete game.

"We have got to learn to finish," Goestenkers said. "When we get teams down by nine or 11 or 14, it's then finding that way to put them away and not let them back in the game."

The Longhorns (12-7, 1-4) are coming off a sloppy 63-56 victory over Oklahoma State, their first conference win of the season. They went through stretches of huge leads that they eventually squandered and then re-established.

Today they take their show on the road to one of the Big 12's most intimidating places to play women's basketball: Lubbock.

Freshman guard Chelsea Bass, who gives Texas a C+ thus far, said getting the initial win was something that came as a bit of relief for the Texas players who desperately need momentum.

"It felt so good to beat Oklahoma State, and I think it will push us a little bit more since we really want to get another one," Bass said. "I just want to do the best I can and be there for my teammates because I know it's a really tough place to play."

The Lady Raiders (16-3, 3-2) are indeed a force to be reckoned with when playing on their home court. They are 11-0 at the United Spirit Arena, led by junior Kierra Mallard, their top scorer.



Andrew Torrey | Daily Texan Staff

Junior point guard Ashleigh Fontenette drives the lane in Texas' 63-56 win over Oklahoma State on Saturday.

Texas Tech has three players averaging double digits in conference play.

Goestenkers expects the Lady Raiders to come out hungry.

"We know it's going to be a battle," she said. "They gave Baylor a heck of a run the other night, so I'm sure they have a lot of confidence."

Statistically, Texas boasts a high-


scoring counterattack. All but two of Texas' 12 wins this season have been by double-digit margins, and the Longhorns are averaging around 82 points a game. The Lady Raiders average nearly 67 points per game.


So with the Longhorns' scoring

HOOPS continues on PAGE 8


SIDELINE


NBA

 L.A. CLIPPERS
105

 MAVERICKS
112

NCAA

 KANSAS
82

 COLORADO
78

LONGHORNS
IN THE NBA

 D.J. AUGUSTIN,
Point Guard
16 points, 2 re-
bounds, 2 assists

 DANIEL GIBSON,
Point Guard
4 points, 2 re-
bounds, 3 assists

NATIONAL PLAYER
OF THE WEEK

Jordan Hamilton, #3



Position:
Guard
Height: 6' 7"
Class:
Sophomore
Hometown:
Compton, Calif.

Hamilton also received Big 12 Player of the Week honors after averaging 22 points and 8.5 rebounds last week in wins against ranked opponents Kansas and Texas A&M. Hamilton leads Texas in scoring and is third in the Big 12.

SPORTS
BRIEFLY

Spurs' Popovich will coach West
at NBA All-Star game in L.A.

San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich will coach the West team in the NBA All-Star game after guiding the Spurs to the league's best record.

Popovich has led San Antonio to a 38-7 start, the best in franchise history. Buoyed by the play of Tim Duncan, Manu Ginobili and Tony Parker — the first time in three seasons all three players have been healthy heading into the All-Star break — the Spurs have taken the NBA by storm.

Popovich is no stranger to the All-Star game — he coached the West in a losing effort in 2005 (the same year the Spurs won the NBA Finals).

Duncan, Ginobili and Parker are all worthy of All-Star selections but it is unlikely that all three will be selected to play for the West. The All-Star starters will be announced Jan. 27.

— Austin Layman

Houston reaches agreement
with left-hander Rodriguez

Pitcher Wandy Rodriguez and the Houston Astros avoided arbitration and reached an agreement Tuesday on a \$34 million, three-year deal.

The Astros said the contract will be finalized after Rodriguez takes a physical on Thursday. The deal includes a vesting option for 2014 that would increase the overall value to \$44.5 million.

Rodriguez was 11-12 with a 3.60 ERA last season. The 32-year-old lefty won eight of his last 10 decisions and had a 2.03 ERA over his final 18 starts, the best in the NL after June 24.

He is 62-64 in six seasons, all with the Astros.

Rodriguez made \$5 million last year. He had asked for \$10.25 million this year and the Astros offered \$8 million.

— The Associated Press

JOHNSON continues from PAGE 7

“He can do everything,” Balbay said. “He can play at the three, he can play at the four. He can get rebounds, he can play defense. He’s a complete player. He’s a leader as well. He’s everything about this team.”

That do-anything mentality began in high school. Playing at Aldine High in northern Houston, Johnson was an all-state forward who led the Mustangs to consecutive state tournaments. At 6-foot-6, Johnson was one of the top power forwards in Texas, but he also practiced as a guard at times—whatever Aldine head coach Ezekiel Smith asked of him.

“When he first came in, he got people to follow him through his actions,” Smith said. “By the time he left he was more of a verbal leader and somebody guys could really follow.”

In one game against Nimitz, Johnson puts those skills to use. With Aldine down by double digits and only about three minutes left in the game, Smith asked Johnson to defend the opposing team’s best guard, who was tearing them up from the perimeter. The tall, lithe Johnson stepped out to guard his much shorter assignment, nearly up at the half-court line.

Johnson shut him out the rest of the game and Aldine won by three.

“He always knew he was go-

ing to be a big-time player,” Smith said. “I told him, ‘You’re going to be a big-time ball player. You’ve gotta stay hungry but also keep your humility.’ Now he’s a great player, but he also likes to laugh.”

“
It’s important that we concentrate on everything we have to do ahead of us.
”
— Gary Johnson, Forward

It’s Johnson’s defense that makes him so valuable to Texas as head coach Rick Barnes, but the senior has developed a complex offensive skill set to go along with it. He’s still a force down low and backing up towards the basket, but he’s also accurate from mid-range with a low-arching jumper.

He’s even able to knock down shots from long range: he hit his one

and only career 3-pointer last season versus North Carolina in Dallas.

Johnson is 0-for-2 this year from beyond the arc, but hasn’t given up hope on notching another trey.

“This year I’m in a position where I’m on the wing a lot more,” he said. “It’s not my forte, but yeah, I plan to get one.”

But Johnson remains most involved in his leadership role, where he serves as captain and mentor to the younger players.

“He’s helped me a lot. I look up to him as a big brother, personally,” freshman Tristan Thompson said. “You always want someone to push you.”

Against Kansas last Saturday, Johnson missed his first six shots from the field, including a lay-up directly under the basket. But Barnes played him for 32 minutes, second-most on the team, because every time Johnson ran back down the court he was calling out orders to the defense.

It was a proud moment for Johnson and the rest of the Longhorns as they beat Kansas inside Allen Fieldhouse for the first time in program history.

But after four years at Texas, 986 career points and 573 rebounds, Johnson isn’t content to linger on what’s behind the team. That’s not what leaders do.

“It’s important that we concentrate on everything we have to do ahead of us,” he said.

Conferences receive record payouts from BCS bowls

By Frederic Frommer
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — College football conferences will get a record take of about \$170 million from this year’s Bowl Championship Series games, including a new high of \$24.7 million for the five conferences that don’t get automatic bids to the BCS bowls.

BCS officials say the higher figures were fueled by the new television contract with ESPN. In addition, the five conferences that don’t get automatic bids were helped by the automatic berth earned by TCU. Those conferences got slightly more than last year’s \$24 million. The distribution of money has been a main point of contention for congressional critics of the BCS, who argue that it shows the system is unfair. In the last congressional session, Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas, pushed legislation aimed at forcing the BCS to switch to a playoff system rather than the ratings system it uses to set the games that determine the college championship.

Under the BCS system, six conferences get automatic bids to participate in top-tier bowl games while the other five don’t. The Big Ten, Southeastern and Pac-10,



David Kadlubowski | Associated Press
Auburn running back Michael Dyer (5) celebrates with a teammate during the Tigers’ 22-19 win over Oregon in the BCS Championship.

which each had two teams in BCS bowls, will receive about \$27.2 million each, while the ACC, Big East and Big 12 will each receive roughly \$21.2 million.

Bill Hancock, the BCS executive director, noted that the conferences that don’t get automat-

ic bids will receive a record take for the second year in a row. He said the numbers demonstrate the “strength and fairness of the current system. The fact is that all of Division I football is better off because of the BCS, financially and otherwise.”

BIG 12 continues from PAGE 7

streak snapped by Stanford earlier this month, coach Geno Auriemma’s Connecticut Huskies encountered a bit of a personnel shakeup. UConn, ranked No. 2 in the most recent poll, will have to play the rest of the year without impact freshman Samarie Walker, who announced her decision to transfer to Kentucky earlier this week.

UK head coach Matthew Mitchell’s opinions on the mo-

tivation of Walker’s basketball career differ sharply from the seemingly bitter Auriemma, who has said Walker is struggling to stay committed to the sport. A 6-foot-1 forward who played regularly for the Huskies and averaged about six points and six rebounds per game in 17 appearances, Walker apparently could not deliver the “energy and commitment that [she] needs to be successful.”

Walker will be eligible to play following next fall semester, per NCAA rules. Her role with the struggling Wildcats is expected to be a big one, as she is a projected starter when she is eligible to play again.

“Samarie is a talented player who will have an excellent opportunity to make a significant impact at Kentucky on and off the basketball court,” Mitchell said.

HOOPS continues from PAGE 7

statistics taking ranks, why are the Lady Raiders off to such a hot start as compared with Texas’ cold one?

Bass says it is a matter of winning the battle of the boards.

“They are a great rebounding team and that’s something we struggle with,” Bass said. “We have to force them out of the paint and grab some rebounds of our own if we want to win.”

Texas Tech snags nearly 10 more rebounds than its opponents as compared with Texas’ four rebound advantage.

Junior guard Ashleigh Fontenette said the Texas Tech matchup will be a good barometer for how well the rest of the season shapes up.

“We are turning our ship around, but we can’t get ahead of ourselves,” Fontenette said. “Texas Tech is a

great team and it’s not going to be easy. This game is really important.”

Fontenette agrees more with Goostenkors that the team is playing at around a B grade level. But Bass, Fontenette and Goostenkors said they see in their team a potential for a “front-of-the-class” caliber squad.

“Its coming,” Bass said. “An A+ game is on the way.”

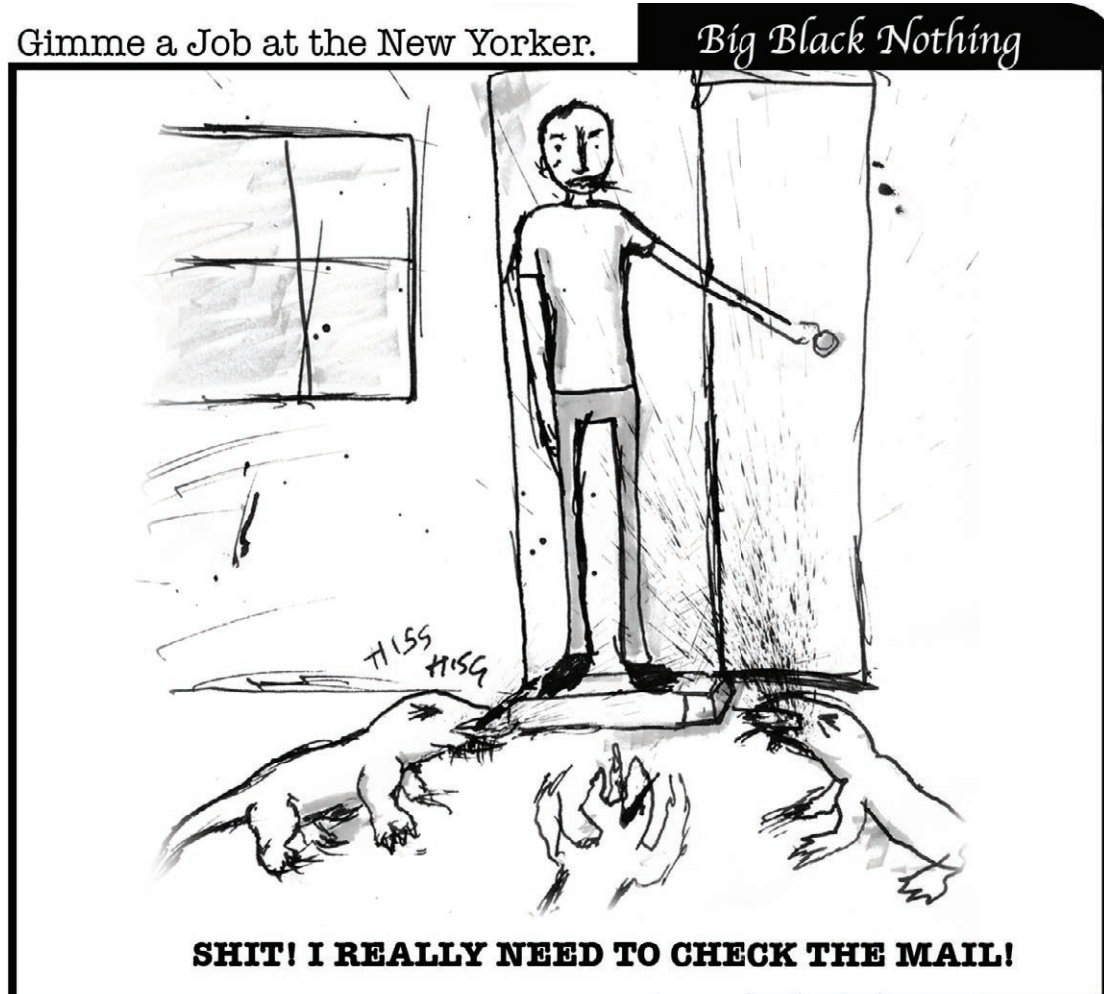
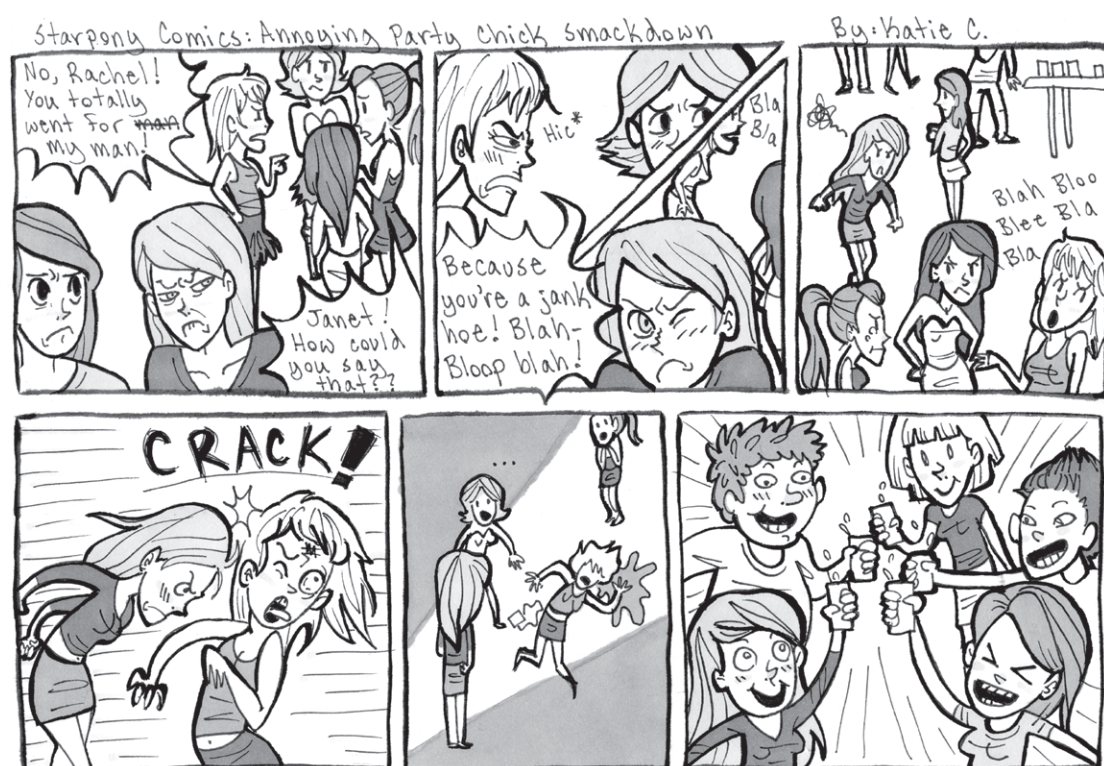
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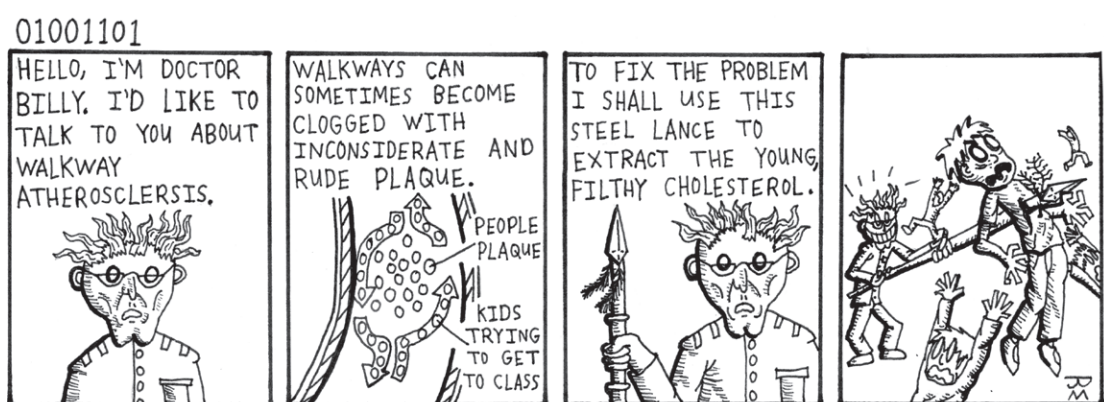
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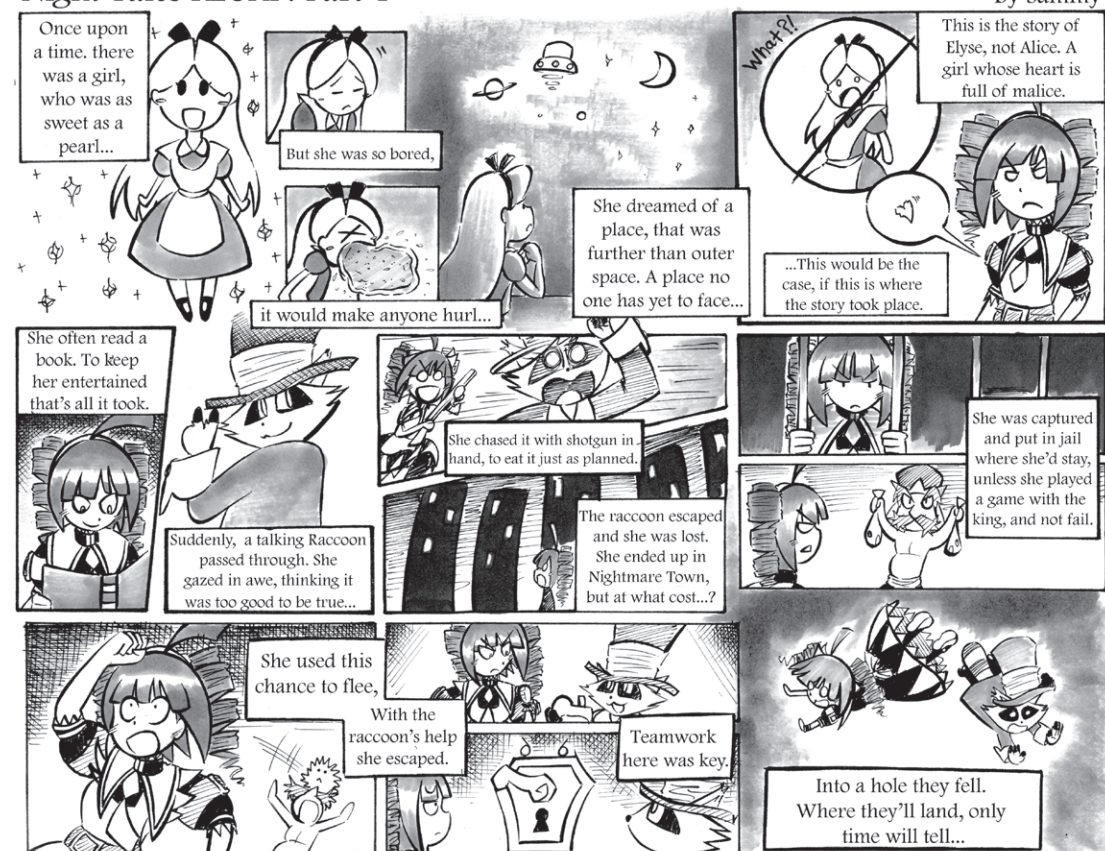
Figure 1 shows a 9x9 grid divided into two sections. The left section is a 4x4 grid with some cells filled with numbers. The right section is a 5x5 grid labeled "Yesterday's solution" with all cells filled with numbers.

	5				1			
7	6	9						
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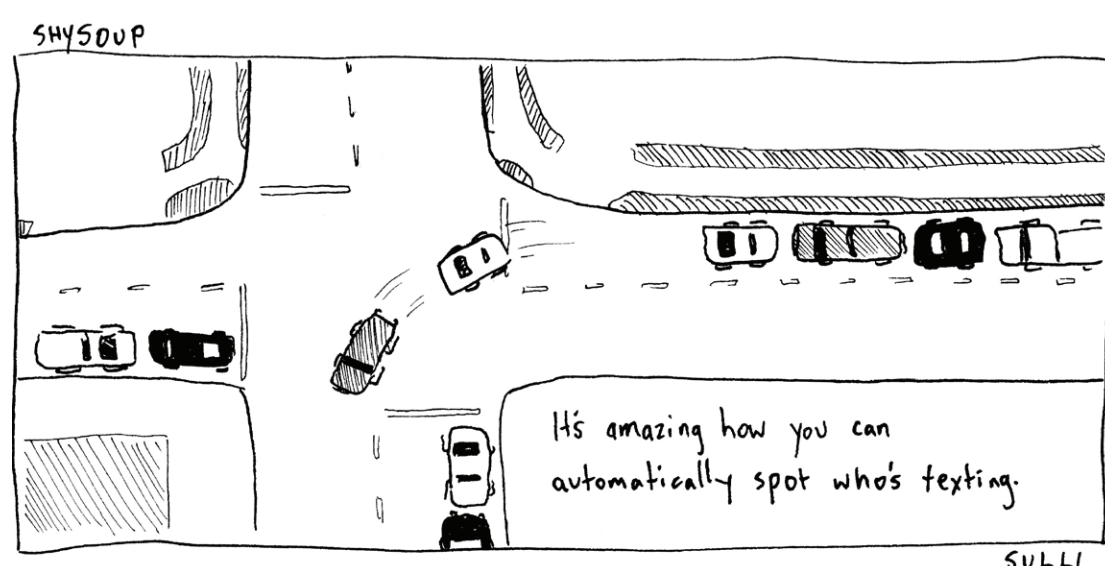
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Night Tales RECAP! Part 1



ScribbleDemon.com



SULLI

The New York Times
Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1222

Across	
1	<i>Cry at the start of a vote</i>
6	Tree in California
10	Soulful Redding
14	Duane ____ (New York City pharmacy chain)
15	Land west of the Pacific
16	"This is terrible!"
17	Greased
18	"Believe" singer, 1999
19	Liberals, with "the"
20	<i>"Soon enough, my friend"</i>
22	Big mess
24	"Bien ____!"
25	Former "S.N.L." comic Gastyer
26	French theologian who wrote "Sic et Non"
28	Jean Sibelius, for one
29	Seat of Albany County, Wyo.
30	Biggie ____ (rapper a k a Notorious B.I.G.)
33	Bennett of "What's My Line?"
34	"Am ____ risk?"
35	Women's rights pioneer Elizabeth ____ Stanton
36	As a package
37	Old man: Ger.
38	Here, in Juárez
39	Bomber type
40	More agile
43	Relinquish, as arms
45	Move from site to site?
46	Hall of TV fame
47	Oslo Accords party, for short
48	One way to sway
51	Many a Justin Bieber fan
52	<i>Completely imagined</i>
54	Restaurateur Toots

55 Kirk's foe in a
"Star Trek"
sequel
57 Lofty dwelling
58 Unadulterated
59 Alveoli site
60 "I love you," in
telenovela
61 Sacred chests
62 Tense
63 Poker phrase
or what's
needed to
complete the
answers to the
six italicized
clues

Down

- 1 Aristophanes comedy, with "The"
- 2 Alphabetic pentad
- 3 Bravery
- 4 Took too much
- 5 Common North American hawk
- 6 Iconic chomper
- 7 New York stadium eponym
- 8 Taradiddle
- 9 Classic candy with nougat
- 10 "How lu-ur-i-ous!"
- 11 *Top-rated TV series of 1971-76*
- 12 Madden
- 13 Lush
- 21 Quaint lodging
- 23 Brand of 45-Dow balls
- 26 Direction at sea
- 27 Block
- 28 Pass muster
- 30 Where "Otello" premiered, with "La"

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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61					62				63					

Puzzle by Michael Sharp

31 General played by Fonda (in 1976), Peck (1977) and Olivier (1982)	40 Glimmer	49 Sam who directed "Drag Me to Hell"
32 <i>To be expected</i>	41 U.S.S. Enterprise helmsman	50 Classic theater
33 MSNBC competitor	42 How some wages are calculated	51 Masculine side
36 Vintner's prefix	43 Popular tractors	52 Sad
37 Terrier's sound	44 See 23-Down	53 Where the robbers are rubbed
39 Exemplar of driness	48 Untamed	54 Means for which Patricia Neal won Best Actress

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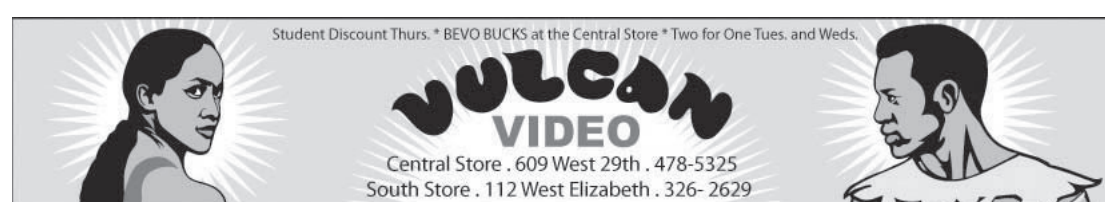
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clean & cut sharp finish



Andrew Torrey | Daily Texan Staff

Chemistry senior Travis Tinney inspects his newly cut hair as Grant Gomez adds the finishing touches. "I love it. It's great," said Gomez of his job, which he has held since August.



Andrew Torrey | Daily Texan Staff

Francisco "Cisco" Johnson cuts radio-television-film sophomore Nikolas Brasselero's hair. Brasselero, who said he was getting a haircut to be more responsible, was attracted to the shop by its low prices and short waiting time.



Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff

George Shelley, who has lived within five minutes walking distance from Wooten Barber Shop his whole life, gets a flat-top haircut from barber Ralph Torres on Monday afternoon.



John Murphy, an undeclared natural sciences sophomore, gets his hair cut at Wooten because it's reliable and inexpensive. "There's places in Austin where you can pay like 30 or 40 bucks for a haircut. I'm not going to do that," Murphy said.

Danielle Villasana
Daily Texan Staff

ON THE WEB:

Check out an audio slide show of the barbershop
[@dailytexanonline.com](#)



Barber Don Stafford steps out from Wooten Barber Shop to make a quick trip to the bank on Monday afternoon. The shop, which offers hair cuts for \$15 and includes an electric shoulder massage, is located on the Drag beneath the Goodall Wooten Dormitory. Stafford, who has cut hair at Wooten for 18 years, enjoys the relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Danielle Villasana
Daily Texan Staff

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY**. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE OREGON TRAIL

Solution: 7 letters

V R E V I R E K A N S S R E S
F A R M E R S N E Y P A I R T
N N N O S B B E O F R T O E
E C R C K R N R T U O W L A
M H O O A R T O O W N O E M
S E T F S U L A S M S O N T B
S R S K O A V S L M R O R D O
E S A J N R I E E C I O A K A
N T S D O M T N R T P O M E T
I R U E L H E T A A R T A R R
S A P O E O N R C E N L P O A
U D P T R L G I G E K I P L V
B E L S E I F O H E A D E P E
R W Y O M I N G R A S S D X L
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Yesterday's Answer: Neolithic

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CACHED

continues from PAGE 12

Maxson to reinvent tired kitsch by taking common objects and imag- es apart piece by piece and reassem- bling them. Her sculpture, titled “The Real Thing,” is a case in point. Colors mesh the elements of the piece — the yellow hair and red lips of a poster of Zack Morris (a char- acter from “Saved by the Bell”), the red Coke towel, the blue chair cush- ion of a chrome chair and the red, blue and yellow cosmic lava of a picture puzzle of outer space. Their

assemblage appears uncluttered, ef- fortless and elegant. The artist, who was present at the opening night of the show, said she hopes viewers will find the environ- ment at Fluent–Collaborative “less contained” than a traditional mu- seum or gallery. The show begins in the front yard, proceeds through the entry where bound inkjet prints and jellybeans await the viewer, moves on towards the living room and ends in the dining room.

POETRY

continues from PAGE 12

Sauer was already in a multi-facet- ed state of mind. The initial plan for the series was to film an out- of-state author reading in front of a green screen, upon which the editors would place footage of the event location, creating the illu- sion that the author is present. “We realized that a film just doesn’t have the same effect as if someone is actually there, so our video artists started to play with it to make it artistic,” Sauer said. “Someone would look like they were at the San Jose downtown, then suddenly they’d be underwa- ter or in front of a gigantic fire.” The concept of an artistic film to complement the out-of-town read- ers’ work took off from there. In a recent video, Eileen Myles reads in front of a scrapbook-esque back- drop upon which the words of her poem are scribbled as she ar- ticulates them, high school love- note style. Other films are more abstract; as Ed Hirsch reads lines from his recent collection, neon hues swirl and pulsate, creating an effect similar to a psychedelic screensaver. “I think people are afraid to combine books with other art, because it’s like you’re saying the book isn’t enough,” Sauer said. “But really, we’re one of the last art forms to jump on the bandwagon. Popular song is multimedia — it’s words enhanced by music.” In addition to promoting over- laps in artistic genres, the founders of Teleportal Readings are look- ing to foster interaction between local writers and readers. Host- ing readings in relaxed social set-

tings, such as bars, allows readers to feel as though they are active- ly contributing to the experience — rather than being lectured. Ac- cording to Sauer, while Austin has always had a rich literary scene, reading events have typically been perceived as promotional and are quickly being replaced by blog tours and book trailers. Nostalgic for the creative energy and spon- taneity of the Beat Generation, she hopes that her events promote dis- cussion and sharing of ideas. “All you read about is the Kin- dle Apocalypse, and maybe they’re right — maybe printed books are dying. But literature certainly isn’t,” Sauer said. “I’ve met so many writ- ers since we started these events. People can sit by a pool or at a bar and listen and socialize.” Fountain agrees that inter- activity enhances her literary experiences. “Teleportal Readings take some- thing like poetry, that is so tre- mendously solitary, and make it collaborative,” she said. “When you read something aloud, you re- alize there’s a person behind ev- ery poem ... it’s not just a bunch of ideas bouncing around in your head. Fountain also believes that lo- cal authors play a vital role in es- tablishing a city or state’s identity. Though she has lived in Austin for 10 years, her first book, published in 2009, is about the small town she grew up in near Las Cruces, NM. Fountain will read her nar- rative and spiritual poems from “Burn Lake” at Thursday’s Tele- portal Reading.

COMIC BOOK REVIEWS

Pirate comic offers grotesque beauty

By Ao Meng
Daily Texan Staff

Iconoclastic French cartoonist David Beauchard illustrates a chill- ing tale of cursed pirates, creating a dark European fairy tale that chills to the bone in his newest release, “The Littlest Pirate King.” Based off a late-1920s children’s story created by prolific bohemi- an writer Pierre Mac Orlan, “Pi- rate King” is the story of the Fly- ing Dutchman, a ship of pirates damned to a life of eternal un- death by some vaguely Catholic de- ity. They sink below the sea during the day and rise to prowl at night, raiding ships and killing unwary sailors in futile attempts to bring back any feelings they may have left. One night, they find a toddler among the exploded remains of an ocean liner and resolve to eventu- ally make the boy into one of their undead crew. If this were American children’s literature, there might be some con-

trovery over the grimness of a story about murderous pirates abduct- ing an infant. But there’s no hint of irony in the telling — the structure perfect- ly mirrors that of a traditional chil- dren’s tale. There are plenty of hu- morous slapstick moments, though. A pirate drains a flask and smashes it in anger. He then is immediately sorrowful because now he can’t pretend to drink anymore. It’s familiar, it’s comforting, it’s safe. And that’s when Beauchard, who only claims an illustrative credit here over the original story, takes the reigns. Beauchard, or David B. as he’s more commonly known, became a big name in 2006 with the pub- lication of “Epileptic,” a memoir chronicling the cartoonist’s trou- bled childhood and his brother’s lifelong fight with the debilitat- ing disease. “Epileptic” feels tru- ly epic and is a perfect example of the subjective nature of com- ics. His characters are shaped by their inner demons — until their



The Littlest Pirate King (Le Roirose)
By David B. based off the original short story by Pierre Mac Orlan (Lettered By Alexa Koenings)

Genre: Children’s Horror
Pages: 44
For those who like: Mike Mignola, Roald Dahl
Grade: B

demons become characters them- selves, taking the shapes of terrible serpentine monsters. It’s the cartoonist’s self-professed love of drawing monsters and battle scenes that feeds this book; designs of fish and sea monsters are beau- tiful in their grotesqueness. The undead pirates reflect elements of Mexican calaveras, lending an Az- tec savagery to Beauchard’s charac- ters. A sort of Guy Davis (“BPRD,” “The Marquis”) meets Tony Mil- lionaire (“Maakies,” “Billy Hazel-

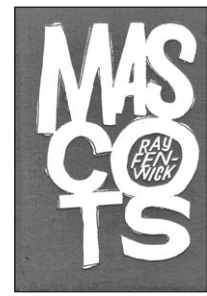
nuts”) type of blocky, cartoonish artwork is shown here, and David B’s formalist mastery over his panel composition is a pleasure to see. This is expertly executed genre horror, and while it might be a bit too much for younger audiences, it’s enjoyable for all ages. Beauchard’s art never fails to surprise on near- ly every page. “The Littlest Pirate King” has a beating heart, leaving the reader with sympathy for the pirate-borne child whose scream tears across the last page.

Concepts swirl in ‘stream of consciousness comic’

By Ao Meng
Daily Texan Staff

Canadian artist Ray Fenwick’s “Mascots” is an avant-garde mix of illustration and typography that at- tempts to give a face to the daily bar- rage of information — that rising tide of noise from all sides. There’s not much of a story to “Mascots,” and the first read is one of surprise and confusion. It’s a stream of consciousness comic — sentenc- es, visuals and motifs suddenly drop into one another or shift to some- thing completely different. The ef- fect is similar to surfing through channels late at night with a perfect stream of surface-level musing that never seems to go anywhere. And then Cthulhu the Omni, the closest thing “Mascots” has to a main character, interrupts. De- scribing itself as all things at once, including the book itself, Cthul- hu is just several forms of the same

entity. This is the key to unwind- ing the comic’s complex elliptical meta-narrative. This is reflected in the fact that the book is comprised of individ- ual paintings on hardcover books with the same canvas-like cover material as “Mascots.” All of the contents of the individual books are never alluded to or disclosed. “Your casual even joyful use of the word ‘mindblowing’ is a prob- lem,” pontificates Cthulhu. “It is part liquifaction, part putrefac- tion. You have no word for it.” “Mascots” is Fenwick’s sec- ond book. The first, “Hall of Best Knowledge,” is the artist’s take on a medieval illuminated manuscript, taking its didactic form to deliver philosophical treatises on top- ics such as theater or beauty. Com- ics-wise, he’s a regular contributor to Fantagraphics’ “Mome” series. The only other work he’s credited for on *Amazon.com* is an illustrated blank



Mascots
By Ray Fenwick

Genre: Post-modern
For those who like: Swiss Dots documentaries, Harmonie Korine, Paper Rad, Kevin Huizenga
Grade: B

personal diary amusingly titled “Fuck You and Your Blog.” Fenwick’s beautiful artwork comes from a strong design back- ground. Many pages in “Mas- cots” are illustration-free except for hand-lettered texts, which he believes have the power to evoke, to color and to stand alone as images. It’s probable that the reader will approach “Mascots” as a puzzle, something to be cracked on a level beyond the page. In one of its forms, “Mascots” is a testament to the un- knowable. Fenwick pokes fun at this approach throughout the book, with repeating images of a clown with sad eyes chasing after and never captur- ing an elusive butterfly. It’s man ap- proaching the unapproachable as though it can be easily captured. The artist plays with the idea of enlightenment and ultimately finds it a near-unattainable goal, as im- possible as grabbing pockets of air. But the journey, full of adventure and knowledge, is where the fun is.

PLANET

continues from PAGE 12

shouldn’t be overlooked. Visuals and animations on par with early Pixar films can be created with ease. This is the way you’ll want to give your next in-class presentation. While the additions to the tool set open the door to new possib- ilities (already we are seeing first- person shooters and role-play- ing games), the game is still held back by many of its precursor’s limitations. Currently, online play is practically broken; connecting with other players online leads to constant crashes, prolonged load times and disconnections. The first game’s physics and depth per- ception — every level has a back, middle and front path you can go between — remain cumbersome. The developer said it is a neces- sary evil to keep the millions of lev- els created for the first game intact. However, players can tweak these things in their own creations if they are patient enough. The laser beam-shooting camels and the ability to shoot cupcakes at evil monster cupcakes in the cam- paign only hints at what lies in store online. Media Molecule has overcome the first game’s biggest fault and made organizing, recommending and reviewing user-created con- tent a breeze. In addition, you can search for new content by trends and tags while adding levels to your queue at the new website, *LBP.me*. With so many level de- signers getting jobs in the game industry for their beloved contri- butions to the first game, this is the perfect way to build a com- munity to highlight the awesome, wacky and just plain weird (e.g. a virtual shrine to Winona Ryder). It’s only had a couple months in

beta and a week on store shelves, but “LittleBigPlanet 2” is already filled with so much promise. Few will com- mit to watching the 50 video tutori- als and perfecting their craft with the given tool set, but the possibilities are almost endless for those that do. Who knows what’s in store for this digital revolution six months from now?

given tool set, but the possibilities are almost endless for those that do. Who knows what’s in store for this digital revolution six months from now?

NICK STAHL

JONATHAN JACKSON

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BEAU GARRETT

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FOR

DAILY TEXAN EDITOR

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Candidates must be registered students at The University of Texas at Austin in the semester the election is held.

2. Candidates must have a minimum grade point average of 2.50 on all work undertaken at The University.

3. Candidates must have:

— Completed at least one semester as a permanent staff member of *The Daily Texan* in news, sports or on the copy desk.

— Completed at least one semester as an issue staff member of *The DailyTexan* in an area other than the one covered above.

— Completed J360 (Media Law) before taking office or demonstrate competency in media law as determined by the Texas Student Media Board of Operating Trustees.

— Obtained signatures from at least five members of the Texan staff supporting the candidate for editor. It is a goal of Texas Student Media and *The Daily Texan* to encourage staff to run for editor. It is preferable to have at least two certified candidates.

Any student desiring to run with one of the above qualifications waived, must complete a waiver form and present evidence supporting waiver. Waiver Forms available in HSM 3.304.

GENERAL PROVISIONS:

1. The editor shall be a registered student in accordance with UT institutional rules. The editor may take no more than 12 semester hours as an undergraduate or 9 semester hours as a graduate or law student, but no fewer than 3 semester hours, during each long term. The editor need not enroll for classes during the summer session.

2. The term of office shall be June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012.

3. Any member of the Board of Operating Trustees of Texas Student Media who becomes an appli- cant for editor shall resign from the Board at the time he or she applies.

4. Any person who shall have served a regular full term as editor shall be ineligible for a second term.

The TSM Election is held concurrently with the Student Government Election.

TEXAS
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DEADLINE FOR APPLYING
Noon, Tuesday, February 1, 2011

Applications must be picked up and returned to the Office of the Director of Texas Student Media, HSM 3.304, or you may download the application from our web site:
<http://www.utexas.edu/tsm/media/texan/>.
The Board will certify applicants at their next meeting at 1 p.m. on Friday, February 4, 2011, in the College of Communication (CMA), LBJ Room #5.160, 2600 Whitis Avenue.



Shannon Kintner | Daily Texan Staff

Morgan Coy and Jess Sauer co-founded Teleportal Readings, a multimedia show that combines literary readings with film, music and graphic design. Sauer thought of the concept a year ago to make poetry readings more entertaining, relaxed and artistic.



By Madeleine Crum

Teleportal puts people back in poetry

Editor's Note: This is the second installment of a column exploring the literary world in Austin.

Your eight-page essay is not due for at least a few days, and there are not any great happy hour deals tonight, so you decide to go to a poetry reading. When you arrive, you're certain the guy next to you has been wearing that same turtle-neck for the past few weeks, and you're even more certain that coffee and saltines do not qualify as sustenance. Both soothed and irritated by the flickering overhead lights, you would probably fall asleep right now if you were not focusing so hard on stifling your overwhelming need to sneeze. The poetry is great, but you begin to question your

commitment to literature: Maybe your parents were right about law school.

"The problem with a lot of readings is that even great readers can be held back by a bad ambiance," said Jess Sauer, co-founder of Teleportal Readings, a series that features videos of published writers, live readers, literary video art and music. "It's easy to feel trapped when you're in a room with fluorescent lights, Cheez-Its and snooty people."

Carrie Fountain, a graduate of UT's Michener Center for Writers and a 2009 National Poetry Series winner, echoes this sentiment.

"Poetry gets a bad rap because when you think of a poetry reading, you think it'll either be in-

credibly boring or it'll be someone wearing a beret and carrying a poodle," Fountain said.

Indeed, many young readers are turned off by the thought of attending a literary event when the format is akin to a formal lecture. Sauer noticed this issue while working toward her master's in poetry at Columbia University and was required to attend four- to five-hour thesis readings. "It was so standard — even church-like — and there wasn't even food," Sauer said. "You felt uncomfortable if your chair squeaked."

So when the record label she worked for, Monofonus Press, began brainstorming ideas for a new reading series in 2009, Sauer in-

WHAT: Teleportal Readings featuring Carrie Fountain, Shannon McCormick, Timothy Donnoley, video artist Amanda Joy and Jonathan Meiburg of Shearwater

WHERE: The ND (Fifth and Brushy Streets)

WHEN: 8 p.m.

WEB: teleportalreadings.org

sisted upon a departure from the norm: a relaxed, open-air setting and the incorporation of multimedia. Because Monofonus specializes in cross-genre art, packaging albums with poetry or art books,

POETRY continues on PAGE 11

GAME REVIEW LITTLEBIGPLANET 2

Community revamp makes sequel huge for users' creations

By Allistair Pinsof
Daily Texan Staff

After numerous updates and more than three million user-created levels, Media Molecule has given their "platform for platformers" a much-needed shot in the arm.

The arrival of "LittleBigPlanet 2" sparks the imagination in the way Facebook and YouTube once did. With a revamped community system, a new tool set and a host of other tweaks, they have created something much larger than the original ever hinted at. This is a social network for video games; a portal into games, interactive stories and films that are relatively easy to make and a pure joy to experience when crafted with diligence and vision.

As with the first title, Media Molecule has created a short but excellent campaign that highlights what is possible within the gamer's tool set. That is to say, you can do a lot. Where in the first game you could recreate World 1-1 of "Super Mario Bros.," in this you can create an entire "Pac-Man" or "Wolfenstein"-like game. From side-scrolling shooter levels to puzzle mini-games, the new engine merits a retake on the origi-

nal's slogan. This is now a platform for games. Whereas the first "LittleBigPlanet" let you make levels, this one lets you make games.

Although the presentation, ideas and pacing of the campaign are top-notch, it lacks the challenge and cerebral puzzles that made the original's campaign better than most of the user-created content that followed. This is a much more deliberate display of the tool set. After a visually stunning opening with cinematic and clever credits sequence (narrated by Stephen Fry), it's clear how much effort has been put into improving the presentation, or rather, the ability to present your own creations.

Sackbots (non-player controlled characters) can now populate the world and be controlled by the level designer — the lifeless, awkward cardboard cut-outs that halted the story in the first game are no more. Additionally, lighting and camera control now lend designers the ability to make a spooky level (See: the awesome tribute level, "Little Dead Space") or a bright, gaudy music video. Most will be playing and building levels, but the capability of "LittleBigPlanet 2" to produce compelling video content

PLANET continues on PAGE 11



LittleBigPlanet 2
By Media Molecule

Genre: Platformer
Platform: Playstation 3
For those who like: New Super Mario Bros. Wii, Minecraft, creating things

Grade: A

'King's Speech' reigns over Oscar noms

By Gerald Rich
Daily Texan Staff

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced the 2011 Academy Award nominations Tuesday, with the Brit-flick "The King's Speech" garnering the most attention with 12 nominations. Critically acclaimed films "The Social Network" from David Fincher ("Fight Club") and "True Grit" from the Coen brothers ("The Big Lebowski," "No Country for Old Men") both earned 10 nominations.

From a local standpoint, "True Grit" gaining the academy's attention could be another feather in the cap of the burgeoning Austin movie scene. The remake was shot in the Austin area in May 2010, according to Austin360.com, and employed Austinites as extras.

On a negative note, the Academy's decision to brush off "Inception" has raised some eyebrows from outlets such as the UK's Telegraph and the New York Daily News, among others. Despite being placed in the best picture category, director Christopher Nolan ("The Dark Knight") did not secure a best director nod. In an April interview with the Los Angeles Times, Nolan said he had been playing around with and perfecting the story since he was 16.

Instead, the Academy shifted their accolades elsewhere and gave its best picture nod to Pixar's "Toy Story 3" and the dark indie mystery "Winter's Bone." Never mind if an Oscar gets placed in the toy box with Buzz and Woody, their nomination for best picture marks the third time in history the Academy nominated an animated film.

TOP 5 OSCAR NOMINEES

• The King's Speech	12
• True Grit	10
• Inception	8
• The Social Network	8
• The Fighter	7

As for "Winter's Bone," the Times is already calling this the Sundance Film Festival's year since it and "The Kids Are Alright" both got high praises at the annual independent film festival in Utah.

If this does indeed mark a shift from the widely distributed films, here's to next year being South By Southwest's time to shine come awards season.



Phillip Tran | Daily Texan Staff

"Idioms of Desire," a mountain of videocassette tapes, is one of many art pieces in the "Cached Curses" show at the Fluent~Collaborative gallery.

Gallery features art in residence by repurposing kitsch from '90s

By Suzanne Schulz
Daily Texan Staff

Nestled on a small North Campus street, between the Wheatville Food Co-op and La Tazza Fresca, is a tangled pyramid of bronze and green reptilian coils. Illuminated by a lawn-mounted red floodlight, the chaotic pile appears to be smoldering. The installation, "Signal to Noise," is one of many in the eclectic solo show "Cached Curses" at the Fluent~Collaborative gallery.

Opened Sunday at the art gallery and suburban residence of curator Laurence Miller, the show is the sixth in the lineup of "Just Because," a series that highlights the work of emerging artists such as Eileen Maxson. One of a younger

generation of Texas-based artists working in an experimental idiom, Maxson was only 25 years old when she was awarded the Art-house Texas Prize in 2005. Maxson followed this success by participating in a two-year residency in Amsterdam's de Ateliers, a studio program funded by the Dutch government.

"Cached Curses" brings Maxson closer to home in more ways than one. The work, a medley of sculptures, videos and prints with early 1990s cast-off junk, utilizes the domestic setting of the gallery. "Signal to Noise" sits in the front yard like a gardener's pile of leaves. A looped video installation featuring the artist lip-synching hangs over the fireplace like a

WHAT: Eileen Maxson: "Cached Curses"

WHERE: Fluent~Collaborative, 502 W. 33rd St.

WHEN: Through Feb. 27; Thursdays from 6-8 p.m.

WEB: fluentcollab.org

family portrait. A sculpture titled "Idioms of Desire," a tower of clear and black plastic videocassettes, lays stacked by the screen like a large and maniacally organized family collection.

Set in a city that perhaps makes too much of retro and vintage, the show is an opportunity for

CACHED continues on PAGE 11



Courtesy of Paramount Pictures

Directors Ethan Coen, left, Joel Coen and actress Hailee Steinfeld are shown during the filming of "True Grit." The Coen brothers were nominated for an Academy Award for best director for "True Grit." The Oscars will be presented Feb. 27 at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood.